

Message Text

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21

ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 SAJ-01

SAM-01 EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 CIEP-01 OMB-01 AGR-05

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R 150730Z MAR 76

FM AMCONSUL HONG KONG

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9525

INFO USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

CINCPAC

FBIS OKINAWA

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CINCPAC FOR POLAD

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PINT ECON CH

SUBJECT: CAMPAIGN NOT TO INTERFERE WITH PRODUCTION

REF: HONG KONG 2586

1. GROWING MEDIA EMPHASIS ON PRODUCTION EFFORTS, MOST NOTABLY IN A SERIES OF NCNA ARTICLES, SHARPEN THE INDICATORS OF GREATER CONTROL OF CRITICISM CAMPAIGN ACTIVITIES (REFTEL). THE ARTICLES ALSO CARRY THE CLEAR IMPLICATION THAT CRITICISM OF CAPITALIST ROADERS WILL NOT BE ALLOWED TO INTERFERE WITH PRODUCTION. CLAIMING PRODUCTION INCREASES IN CHINA'S TROUBLED STEEL INDUSTRY, A MARCH 14 ARTICLE CITES ONE STEEL MILL WHICH "HAS MADE PROPER ARRANGEMENTS FOR WORKERS TO ATTEND STUDY COURSES BY TURNS WHILE ENSURING NORMAL PRODUCTION." AT LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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ANOTHER MILL, CRITICISM MEETINGS ARE HELD BEFORE WORK SHIFTS

AND RESULT IN "REDOUBLED EFFORTS" IN PRODUCTION.

2. OTHER ARTICLES REFER TO GAINS MADE IN AGRICULTURE, WITH ONLY LIP SERVICE TO THE CRITICISM CAMPAIGN. A MARCH 12 RELEASE CLAIMS GAINS IN FARMLAND IMPROVEMENT THROUGHOUT CHINA AND CITES THE DRIVE TO BUILD TACHAI-TYPE COUNTIES, A CENTERPIECE OF LAST FALL'S TACHAI CONFERENCE. THE CONFERENCE ITSELF IS REFERRED TO IN A MARCH 13 ARTICLE ON SPRING FARMING.

3. MANY REFERENCES TO THE "THREE DIRECTIVES AS THE KEY LINK," WHICH IS THE HEART OF THE ATTACK AGAINST TENG, WERE ASSOCIATED WITH CALLS TO IMPLEMENT THE TACHAI CONFERENCE. THIS, AND THE FACT THAT THE CONFERENCE'S CALL FOR MODERNIZATION OF AGRICULTURE WAS OFTEN STRESSED AT THE EXPENSE OF THE MORE POLITICALLY-ORIENTED GOALS, COULD HAVE CAUSED THE CONFERENCE'S DECISIONS TO BE CONSIDERED TAINTED. THUS THE OMISSION OF ALL REFERENCE TO THE CONFERENCE IN A FEBRUARY 24 PEOPLE'S DAILY SPRING FARMING EDITORIAL LED TO SPECULATION THAT THE CONFERENCE'S IMPORTANCE AS A CAMPAIGN THEME AND A GUIDE TO ACTION WAS BEING DOWNGRADED. ITS RENEWED PROMINENCE HAS COINCIDED WITH TACHAI MODEL CHEN YUNG-KUEI'S RETURN TO THE PUBLIC STAGE AFTER AN ABSENCE OF SIX WEEKS. WHILE THIS INDICATES THAT THE LEADERSHIP STRUGGLE WILL NOT BE PERMITTED TO AFFECT BASIC AGRICULTURAL POLICY, IT MAY ALSO MEAN THAT THE LEADERSHIP HAS POSITIVELY EVALUATED THE TACHAI CONFERENCE AND ITS DECISIONS AS WELL AS THE ROLE OF CHEN.

CROSS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: POLITICAL STABILITY, POLITICAL LEADERS, PUBLIC ATTITUDES, AGRICULTURAL POLICIES, PRODUCTION TRENDS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 15 MAR 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: KelleyW0
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976HONGK02917
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760096-0951
From: HONG KONG
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760361/aaaacbpl.tel
Line Count: 88
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EA
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 HONG KONG 2586
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: KelleyW0
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 06 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <06 MAY 2004 by GarlanWA>; APPROVED <20 SEP 2004 by KelleyW0>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CAMPAIGN NOT TO INTERFERE WITH PRODUCTION
TAGS: PINT, ECON, CH
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006